

National Action Plan to Prevent Healthcare-Associated Infections: Roadmap to Elimination

(Draft)

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Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
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Health Resources and Services Administration
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Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology

U.S. Department of Defense
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

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KEY ACRONYMS

ACA: Affordable Care Act	Technology for Economic and Clinical Health
ACO: Accountable care organization	HVBP: Hospital Value-based Purchasing (also VBP)
AO: Accreditation Organization	ICU: Intensive care unit
ARRA: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009	ICWS: Infection Control Worksheet
ASC: Ambulatory Surgical Center	IPPS: Inpatient Prospective Payment System
CAUTI: Catheter-associated urinary tract infection	IT: Information Technology
CDI: <i>Clostridium difficile</i> infections	MDR: Multi-drug resistant
CLABSI: Central-line associated bloodstream infections	MRSA: Methicillin-resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
CfC: Conditions for Coverage	NHIN: Nationwide Health Information Network
CoP: Condition of Participation	NHSN: National Healthcare Safety Network
CUSP: Comprehensive Unit-based Safety Program	PSO: Patient Safety Organization
ESRD: End-Stage Renal Disease	QIO: Quality Improvement Organization
EHR: Electronic health record	SCIP: Surgical Care Improvement Project
FHIE: Federal Health Information Sharing Environment	SSA: State Survey Agencies
HAC-POA: Hospital-Acquired Conditions-Present on Admission	SSI: Surgical site infections
HAI: Healthcare-associated infections	UTI: Urinary tract infection
HCP: Healthcare Personnel	VAP: Ventilator-associated pneumonia
HICPAC: Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee	VBP: Value-based purchasing
HIE: Health Information Network	
HITECH: Health Information	

Acronyms for Federal Departments and Agencies

AHRQ: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
AOA: Administration on Aging
CDC: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CMS: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
DOD: U.S. Department of Defense
FDA: Food and Drug Administration
GAO: Government Accountability Office
HHS: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
HRSA: Health Resources and Services Administration
IHS: Indian Health Service
NIH: National Institutes of Health

OS: HHS Office of the Secretary

OASH: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health

NVPO: National Vaccine Program Office

OHQ: Office of Healthcare Quality

ASPE: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation

ONC: Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology

VA: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

DRAFT

I am pleased to share the 2011 *National Action Plan to Prevent Healthcare-Associated Infections: Roadmap to Elimination*. Healthcare-associated infections are a serious national health issue. At any given time, about 1 in every 20 patients has an infection related to their hospital care, which cost the U.S. healthcare system billions of dollars each year. The Department encourages reductions in healthcare-associated infections by engaging public and private sector stakeholders.

The *Action Plan* reflects a significant update and expansion from the initial version issued in 2009. It includes new sections specific to infection reduction in ambulatory surgical centers and end-stage renal disease facilities, as well as a new section on increasing influenza vaccination of health care personnel. The *Action Plan* reflects the work of many offices across the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Department of Defense, and Department of Veterans Affairs. The plan also reflects input from national experts and stakeholder organizations.

Achieving the highest quality health care at an affordable cost is a complex endeavor. It requires providers, health care organizations, governments, the public health community, patients, and their loved ones to collaborate and support each other's actions to realize our shared mission of being the healthiest society we can be. Patients across the nation are depending on our efforts to prevent, and eventually eliminate, healthcare-associated infections.

HHS intends to update the plan in the future after soliciting public input. It is my hope that a diverse array of stakeholders will participate in this feedback process.

The *Action Plan* is critical to our overall mission to strengthen health systems through improving health care quality and patient safety. Recently, we have seen significant investments in the essential strategies and infrastructure needed to reduce the burden of healthcare-associated infections. My vision is to contribute to an even stronger, healthier, and more prosperous America for years to come. The *National Action Plan to Prevent Healthcare-Associated Infections: Roadmap to Elimination* will help us to achieve that vision.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Sebelius